

EXHIBIT 4: Letters/Summaries of Support

MIKE THOMPSON

1ST DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEES:

AGRICULTURE

BUDGET

TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE



CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

DISTRICT OFFICE
1040 MAIN STREET, SUITE 101
NAPA, CA 94559
(707) 226-9898

317 THIRD STREET, SUITE 1
EUREKA, CA 95501
(707) 269-9595

PORT OFFICE BOX 2208
FORT BRAGG, CA 95437
(707) 962-0933

712 MAIN STREET, SUITE 1
WOODLAND, CA 95695
(530) 662-5272

CAPITOL OFFICE
119 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-3311

WEB: <http://www.house.gov/mthompson/>

November 20, 2003

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chair
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Subject: Request for Funding – City of Fort Bragg / Design and Engineering of Improvements
Identified in the Pomo Bluffs Park Management Plan.

Dear Mr. Morabito:

I am writing in support of the City of Fort Bragg's request of \$89,000 in funds from the Coastal Conservancy for the design and engineering of public coastal access improvements and resource protection measures identified in the Pomo Bluffs Park Management Plan.

The City of Fort Bragg acquired 25 acres of land located on the southern bluffs of the Noyo Bay in 2002 through a grant from the Coastal Conservancy. The City drafted a management plan for the park in 2003 with additional funding from the Coastal Conservancy. The management plan identifies a number of improvements, which will enhance both the ease of public access to the site as well as enhanced resource protection and rehabilitation measures to be undertaken at the site. The establishment of permanent access and site improvements will be a great asset to this small coastal community and visitors in perpetuity.

I thank you in advance for your careful consideration of this important project.

Sincerely,

MIKE THOMPSON
Member of Congress

MT:mm

RECEIVED
NOV 24 2003
COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

Printed on recycled paper



EXHIBIT 4: Letters/Summaries of Support



CITY OF FORT BRAGG

Incorporated August 5, 1889
416 N. Franklin St.
Fort Bragg, CA 95437
FAX 707-961-2802

November 20, 2003

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chair
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Subject: Request for Funding -- City of Fort Bragg / Design and Engineering of
Improvements Identified in the Pomo Bluffs Park Management Plan.

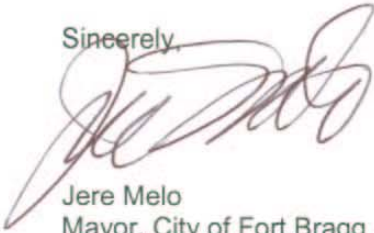
Honorable Chair Morabito and Members of the Coastal Conservancy Board:

The City of Fort Bragg is requesting \$89,000 in funds from the Coastal Conservancy for the design and engineering of public coastal access improvements and coastal resource protection measures identified in the Pomo Bluffs Park Management Plan. The City is committed to providing in-kind staff services estimated at approximately \$20,000 in project management, environmental review, and permitting of the park improvements.

The City of Fort Bragg acquired 25 acres of land located on the southern bluffs of the Noyo Bay in 2002 through a grant from the Coastal Conservancy. The City drafted a management plan for the park in 2003 with additional funding from the Coastal Conservancy. The management plan identified a number of improvements which would enhance both the ease of public access to the site as well as enhanced resource protection and rehabilitation measures to be undertaken at the site. The establishment of permanent access and site improvements at the site would be a great asset to this small coastal community and coastal visitors in perpetuity.

We urge the Coastal Conservancy to allocate funds to assist the City in enhancing the access and resource value of this beautiful, oceanfront property.

Sincerely,



Jere Melo
Mayor, City of Fort Bragg

RECEIVED
NOV 24 2003
COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

ADMINISTRATION/ENGINEERING
(707) 961-2823

FINANCE/WATER WORKS
(707) 961-2825

ECONOMIC/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
(707) 961-2828

EXHIBIT 4: Letters/Summaries of Support

Planwest

P.O. Box 4581 # Arcata, CA 95518 # Phone (707) 825-8260 # Fax (707) 825-9181

City of Fort Bragg - Noyo Bluff Overlook Management Plan

Comments from Public Workshop at Fort Bragg City Hall

February 11, 2002

Opportunities & Constraints / Goals & Objectives

The public made the following comments regarding the Noyo Bluff Overlook. People expressed the bluff features they like and don't like, the kinds of things they would like developed on the bluff, and issues they would like the management plan to address.

- Noyo Bluff is a historical vista point
- Increase safety, e.g. barriers
- Waste receptacles maintained (e.g. on 4th of July)
- Picnic tables (maintained)
- Restrooms (maintained)
- Windbreaks
- Road maintenance
- Are there plans to stabilize bluff? Current 4X4 OHV (off road) activity may not be appropriate. Possibly install barrier (for vehicles) at north end (closer to river view).
- Circulation- design something similar to Mendo. Heezer Pt. Use logs as barriers. Don't want wind barriers blocking views.
- More car pull-out and parking view areas.
- 1-way loop
- Interpretive signs - Native American historical education
- Keep natural look
- Anticipate increase in traffic: ingresses are from residential property. Speed limits not enforced.
- Structures not to detract from views. Want balance in design.
- Have a dogs off-leash area
- Regarding 1 way loop: it would use up a lot of space.
- "Fencing": some type of barriers to improve safety, designate access, and not to detract from vistas. On bluff and residential sides. Vehicle and/or pedestrian entries?
- Viewing platforms: elevated walkways would help stabilize blufftop and allow restoration of vegetation.
- Do any necessary environmental assessment of habitat impacts.
- Current access is by driving out there.
- The new bridge (Caltrans) may increase pedestrian and bike traffic.
- MTA bus service to bluff.
- Open up top to alleviate impact on residential neighborhood.
- Public parking to not impact private parking. In northern area could give parking spaces for pedestrians (i.e. people who want to walk would park there).
- Public access will only be on public property.
- See deed for donor/restrictions.
- Winter: unfriendly to pedestrians, but great views so provide car viewing.
- Need lots of parking.

EXHIBIT 4: Letters/Summaries of Support

Planwest

P.O. Box 4581 # Arcata, CA 95518 # Phone (707) 825-8260 # Fax (707) 825-9181

- Raised platforms and walkways for handicapped access.
- Bike access with parking.
- 4th of July fireworks - not to block view. It will be difficult to limit direct access and parking on this holiday.
- Residential encroachment: protect their property; fencing to be designed considering wildlife/natural aspects.
- Landowner notification policies? Update mailing list.

Long Term

- #1 concern to maintain/improve site; address erosion problem. Establish safety design; e.g. parking, increased traffic.
- Erosion to property lines: will it create islands?
- Interpretive display of timber use history. Recreate loading timber in summer.
- Visitor center-interpretive center near Recreational Vehicle Park.
- Long-term: city acquire land/parcel east of highest impact area. (OHV)
- County roads used for access- plan who manages/maintains.
- Plan for maintaining bluff in good condition. In 20 years it should last even with increased use.
- Todd's Point: some parts are surrounded on 3 sides: does City have plans for future annex? The two Kime properties have been identified for annex, but they are not listed as a high priority.
- Address water and sewage service.
- Coastal Commission - must be proactive to get things through their process.
- Split rail fence: design to allow animals back and forth.
- Use as a model the McKericher State Park - coastal bluff, boardwalk, trails, parking, heavy use, multi-use.

(see next page)

EXHIBIT 4: Letters/Summaries of Support

Planwest

P.O. Box 4581 # Arcata, CA 95518 # Phone (707) 825-8260 # Fax (707) 825-9181

COMMENT CARD RESPONSES – February 11, 2002 PUBLIC WORKSHOP

Following are the written comments received from the initial public workshop held at the City of Fort Bragg City Hall. Numbers in parentheses indicate the number of times a response was given (if no number is indicated, the comment was made once).

▪ What features of the Noyo Bluff Overlook do you like most?

The view of the ocean. (5)
Access to Noyo Harbor entrance. (2)
Views to the west and north
Having vehicle access

▪ How do you use the bluff (e.g. what recreational activities do you use it for)?

Whale watching. (3)
Lunch break. (3)
Sit in the car and look at the view. (2)
View of 4th of July fireworks.
Boat watching.
Walk dogs off leash.

▪ What uses would you like addressed in the Management Plan?

Parking (4)
Habitat restoration/ revegetation (2)
Access/Traffic Flow (2)
Restrooms (2)
Fencing
Vehicle barriers
Trail building (pedestrian)
Erosion control
Viewing decks and boardwalks
Handicapped access
Maintenance program
Band shell for concert
Trash

Please use the backside for any additional comments.

- The park should be "natural" with minimum disturbance to the natural beauty and habitat. No visitor centers, no special signage.
- Based on experience of parking in SoCal beach communities, no matter what plan

EXHIBIT 4: Letters/Summaries of Support

Planwest

P.O. Box 4581 # Arcata, CA 95518 # Phone (707) 825-8260 # Fax (707) 825-9181

is adopted for parking control, people will park on residential streets and walk to the Noyo Bluff park. Only restricted access (high fences which are ugly) at the end of east-west streets will prevent this. Not esthetically attractive.

- It irritates me to no end every time I go to the Mendocino headlands or other parks and there is no place to park. How can the public use their parks if there is no place to park their cars, get out and enjoy the beauty of nature, the reason they are visiting the park in the first place?
- The site should be preserved in its historic role of providing a place to park, enjoy views, walk pets, and assemble in large or small groups. Limited the use of fences except to mitigate safety/liability issues. Signage should be kept to a minimum. Parking should be maximized. Allow for two way traffic and entrances/exits at a number of points.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS RECEIVED:

- 1) An e-mail sent to Mayor Melo:
 - I believe the very most important priority for the Todd's Point Park is parking. There should be lots of it! It irritates me no end everytime I go to the Mendocino Headlands or other parks and there is no place to park! How can the public use their park if there is no place to park their cars, get out and enjoy the beauty of nature and the reason they are visiting the park in the first place? I love to go to Todd's Point and watch the boats and the whales. I'm positive I'm not the only one! I hope to be at your meeting Monday night. Thanks, Marsha Robinson.
- 2) A letter with comments from Jere Melo.